

REPORT

FROM

STANDING COMMITTEE D

OF THE

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL

WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
19th July, 1919.*

LONDON.

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1919.

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STANDING COMMITTEE D.

[Wednesday, 28th February, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had agreed to the following Resolution, which they had directed him to report to the House:—

"That, after a Bill has been under consideration in Standing Committee, no application for changes in the composition of that Committee in respect of that Bill shall be entertained by the Committee of Selection."

[Tuesday, 4th March, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had nominated the following Members to serve on Standing Committee D:—

STANDING COMMITTEE D.

Sir William Barton.	Mr. Edward Kelly.
Sir Edward Beauchamp.	Mr. Kenyon.
Mr. Bowerman.	Mr. Lindsey.
Major Brassey.	Major William Murray.
Major Bress.	Mr. Reginald Nicholson.
Mr. Broad.	Mr. Pennefather.
Lieutenant-Colonel Burgoyne.	Sir John Randles.
Colonel Campion.	Mr. Frederick Roberts.
Lieutenant-Colonel Spender Clay.	Mr. Royce.
Mr. Clough.	Sir William Senger.
Sir Clifford Cory.	Mr. Seddon.
Mr. Alfred Thomas Davies (Lincoln).	Mr. Strauss.
Mr. Bartley Dennis.	Mr. Thomson.
Mr. Finney.	Mr. Tootill.
Mr. Foreman.	Sir John Todor Walters.
Mr. Glanville.	Colonel Weston.
Mr. Duncan Graham.	Lieutenant-Commander Williams.
Major Henderson.	Colonel Peary Williams.
Mr. Hurd.	Lieutenant-Colonel Willoughby.
Mr. Irving.	Mr. William Young.

[Thursday, 6th March, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection: That they had discharged the following Members from Standing Committee D: Sir William Barton and Mr. Trevelyan Thomson: and had appointed in substitution: Major Barker and Sir Alfred Yeo.

[Tuesday, 1st April, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection: That they had discharged the following Member from Standing Committee D: Lieutenant-Colonel Burgoyne; and had appointed in substitution: Lieutenant-Colonel Pownall.

[Tuesday, 12th May, 1919].—Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill read a second time, and committed to a Standing Committee.

[Wednesday, 14th May, 1919].—

DISTRIBUTION BY MR. SPEAKER, PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER No. 47,
OF BILLS COMMITTED TO A STANDING COMMITTEE.

Name of Bill.	Standing Committee.
Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill	D.

[Wednesday, 14th May, 1919].—Selection (Standing Committees).—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had discharged the following Member from Standing Committee D: Sir John Randles; and had appointed in substitution: Mr. Murchison.

[Thursday, 15th May, 1919].—Standing Committee (Chairmen's Panel).—Mr. John William Wilson reported from the Chairmen's Panel; That they had appointed Mr. T. P. O'Connor to act as Chairman of Standing Committee D (in respect of the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill).

[Tuesday, 27th May, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had added to Standing Committee D the following Fifteen Members (in respect of the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill): Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr. Hugh Barria, Sir Henry Cowan, Mr. Devlin, Mr. Donnelly, Major Oscar Guest, Lieutenant-Colonel Walker Guinness, Mr. Magpherson, Mr. MacVaugh, Lieutenant-Colonel Malone, Sir George Croydon Marks, Dr. Donald Murray, Major Newman, Sir William White, and Sir Robert Woods.

Sir Samuel Roberts further reported from the Committee; That they had discharged the following Members from Standing Committee D at the conclusion of the Land Settlement (Facilities) Bill: Mr. Attorney-General, Mr. Hodge, Sir Donald Maclean, Major Watts Morgan, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Munro, Sir Robert Newman, Lieutenant-Colonel Parry, Mr. Pretyman, Mr. Raffan, Mr. Alexander Shaw, Mr. Alfred Short, Mr. Walter Smith, Mr. Solicitor-General, Mr. Spencer, Lieutenant-Colonel Weigall, Major Wheeler, Mr. John Williams, Colonel Marrough Wilson, Sir Richard Winfrey, Major Earl Winterton, and Sir Frederick Young; and had added the following Members to the Committee for the consideration of the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill: Lieutenant-Colonel Allen, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. William Coote, Captain Dixon, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Lynn, Mr. McGuffin, Mr. Nolen, Mr. John Murray, Mr. Neal, Mr. O'Grady, Mr. Rae, Mr. Raffan, Captain Redmond, Mr. Reid, Mr. Thomas Shaw, Colonel Stephenson, Mr. Swen, and Mr. Daniel Wilson.

[Tuesday, 2nd June, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had discharged the following Member from Standing Committee D: Lieutenant-Colonel Allen; and had appointed in substitution (for the consideration of the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill): Mr. Archdale.

[Thursday, 26th June, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had discharged the following Members from Standing Committee D: Sir Francis Blake, Major Courthope, Sir Alfred Warren, and Major Edward Wood; and had appointed in substitution Mr. Bartley Dennis, Major Henderson, Major William Murray, and Mr. Strauss.

Sir Samuel Roberts further reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had discharged the following Member from Standing Committee D: Mr. Archdale; and had appointed in substitution (for the consideration of the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Bill): Mr. Burn.

[Monday, 30th June, 1919].—Selection (Standing Committee).—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had added the following Member to Standing Committee D: Sir Maurice Dockrell.

[Tuesday, 1st July, 1919].—Sir Samuel Roberts reported from the Committee of Selection; That they had discharged the following Member from Standing Committee D: Major Henderson.

REPORT.

STANDING COMMITTEE D, to whom the HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) Bill was referred;—Have gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

9th July, 1919.

STANDING COMMITTEE D.

Tuesday, 1st July, 1919.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. T. P. O'Connor in the Chair.

Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland
 Sir Edward Beanchamp
 Mr. Broad
 Mr. Burn
 Colonel Campion
 Mr. William Coote
 Mr. Devlin
 Captain Dixon
 Sir Maurice Dockrell
 Mr. Donald
 Mr. Donnelly
 Mr. Harbison
 Mr. Edward Kelly
 Mr. Lynn
 Mr. Macpherson
 Mr. McVeagh
 Lieut.-Colonel Malone

Mr. McGuffin
 Mr. Moles
 Mr. Murchison
 Mr. John Murray
 Mr. Neal
 Major Newman
 Mr. Reginald Nicholson
 Lieut.-Colonel Pownall
 Captain Redmond
 Mr. Reid
 Mr. Royce
 Sir William Seager
 Mr. Swan
 Sir William Whitla
 Colonel Perry Williams
 Lieut.-Commander Williams
 Lieut.-Colonel Willoughby

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.

Clause 1.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 9, after the second word "1890," to insert the words "as amended by The Houses of the Working Classes Act, 1900"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).—Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

[Committee adjourned till Thursday next, at 11.30 o'clock.]

Thursday, 3rd July, 1910.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. T. P. O'Connor in the Chair.

Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland
 Sir Edward Beauchamp
 Major Brassey
 Major Bressie
 Mr. Broad
 Mr. Burn
 Colonel Campion
 Mr. William Coote
 Mr. Devlin
 Captain Dixon
 Sir Maurice Dockrell
 Mr. Donald
 Mr. Donnelly
 Mr. Harbison
 Mr. Edward Kelly
 Mr. Lynn
 Mr. Macpherson

Lieut.-Colonel Malone
 Mr. McGuffin
 Mr. Moles
 Mr. Murchison
 Mr. John Murray
 Mr. Neal
 Major Newman
 Mr. Reginald Nicholson
 Lieut.-Colonel Pownall
 Captain Redmond
 Sir William Seager
 Mr. Swan
 Sir W. D. Whitla
 Colonel Peury Williams
 Lieut.-Commander Williams
 Lieut.-Colonel Willoughby

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.

Clause 1, *further considered*.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 9, after the second word "1890," to insert the words "as amended by the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1900"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).
 Question again proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Motion made, and Question, "That the Committee do now adjourn,"—put, and *agreed to*.

[Adjourned to Monday, July 7th, at 4 p.m.]

Monday, 7th July, 1919.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. T. P. O'Connor in the Chair.

Sir Edward Beanchamp
Mr. Bowerman
Major Brassey
Major Breece
Mr. Burn
Colonel Campion
Lieut.-Colonel Spender Clay
Mr. Donald
Lieut.-Colonel Walter Guinness
Mr. Harbison
Mr. Edward Kelly
Mr. Macpherson
Mr. MacVeagh
Lieut.-Colonel Malone

Mr. McGuffin
Dr. Donald Murray
Major William Murray
Mr. Neal
Major Newman
Mr. Reginald Nicholson
Mr. O'Grady
Lieut.-Colonel Pownall
Sir William Seager
Sir W. D. Whida
Colonel Penry Williams
Lieut.-Commander Williams
Lieut.-Colonel Willoughby

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Committee do now adjourn"—(Mr. Macpherson),
—put, and agreed to.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 11.30 o'clock.]

Tuesday, 8th July, 1919.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR in the Chair.

Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland
 Major Barker
 Sir Edward Beauchamp
 Mr. Burns
 Colonel Campion
 Mr. Devlin
 Captain Dixon
 Sir Maurice Dockrell
 Mr. Donald
 Mr. Donnelly
 Mr. Harbison
 Mr. Edward Kelly
 Mr. Lynn
 Mr. Macpherson
 Mr. MacVeagh
 Lieut.-Colonel Malone

Mr. McGuffin
 Mr. Moles
 Dr. Donald Murray
 Major William Murray
 Mr. Neal
 Major Newman
 Mr. Reginald Nicholson
 Lieut.-Colonel Pownall
 Captain Redmond
 Mr. Reid
 Mr. Royce
 Sir William Seager
 Sir W. D. Whittle
 Colonel Penry Williams
 Lieut.-Commander Williams
 Lieut.-Colonel Willoughby

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.

Clause 1, *further considered*.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 9, after the second word "1890," to insert the words "as amended by The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1900"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).—Question again proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Another Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 11, after the word "Ireland," to insert the words "being an urban sanitary district or having town commissioners under The Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act"—(*Major Newman*).—Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Another Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 16, after the word "classes," to insert the words "and other persons"—(*Major Newman*).—Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

An Amendment made, in page 2, line 2, at the end, by inserting the words "(c) the average number of houses per acre"—(*Major Newman*).

Another Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 38, after the word "Board," to insert the words "and carried out, or are being carried out, by the local authority"—(*Captain Redmond*). Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendments made, in page 2, line 41, by leaving out the first word "section" and inserting the word "Act," and after the word "submitted" by inserting the words "and approved"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 2, *agreed to*.

Clause 3, *postponed*.

Clause 4.

Amendment made, in page 3, lines 41 and 42, by leaving out the words "in regard to the powers of the Board"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Another amendment proposed, in page 3, line 42, at end, to add the words:—

"For the purpose of enabling the Local Government Board to carry into effect the duties imposed upon them by this Act an additional Commissioner or Commissioners

of the said Board shall be appointed in like manner and with the same tenure of office as the present Commissioners of the said Board under The Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1872"—(*Major Newman*).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 5, postponed.

Clause 6.

Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 30, to leave out the words "Part III. of the Act of 1890," and insert the words "this Act"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).—instead thereof.—Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Another Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 33, after the word "published," to insert the words "or the amount of the compensation or purchase money has been determined by agreement"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).—Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

All Amendment made, in page 4, line 35, by leaving out the word "or," and inserting the word "and"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).—instead thereof.

Other Amendments made.

Another Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 40, to add at the end of the Clause the words :—

"Provided always that from and after any such entry or taking of possession all future obligations of the owner or occupier in respect of rent, interest, rates, or otherwise as far as same relate to the land entered on shall be transferred to the local authority so entering or taking possession, and shall be discharged by such authority in exoneration of such owner or occupier"—(*Major Newman*).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Another Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 40, to add at the end of the Clause the following sub-sections :—

"(2) Where the order authorises the acquisition of any land by way of absolute purchase, then at any time after the local authority has become entitled to enter into possession of the land, or of any part thereof, the Local Government Board may by order under its seal (herein called a vesting order); or may from time to time by several orders, vest the land or any part or parts thereof in the local authority, and every such order shall be effectual to vest the lands comprised in it in the local authority in fee simple discharged from the interests of all persons, including the Crown and the title of the local authority, shall be registered accordingly.

"(3) 'Vesting order' includes a fiat or endorsement on a scheme, or map, or other document, and shall be sufficient if it contains a reference to this Act together with a short description of the lands vested and is accompanied by a map contained in or referred to by the vesting order"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Another Amendment proposed in page 4, Clause 40, to add at the end of the Clause the following sub-sections:—

"(2) On proof of such order having been made and confirmed and of notices having been given in accordance with the terms of this section, if any person in possession of any lands mentioned in such order refuses to give up possession of such lands, a court of summary jurisdiction shall, after giving the person so refusing an opportunity of being heard, issue a warrant directing a constable or other police officer to hand over possession of such lands to the local authority within a time to be fixed by the court.

(3) Whenever an order for demolition has been made in respect of any dwelling-house by a court of summary jurisdiction and said dwelling-house has not been rendered fit for human habitation within the time limited by the said order, the court of summary jurisdiction may issue a warrant directing some police officer to hand over possession of said dwelling-house to the local authority for the purpose of being demolished within a time to be fixed by the said court.

(4) Any person who disobeys by re-entry or otherwise, or resists or obstructs the execution of an order under this section, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds"—(Mr. Edward Kelly).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 7.

Amendment proposed, in page 5, line 1, to leave out all the words from the beginning of the Clause to the end of line 10, and insert the words "the word 'land' in Part III. of the Act of 1890 shall be deemed to include houses or other buildings or any estate or interest therein"—(Major Newman),—instead thereof.—Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendments made.

Another Amendment made, in page 5, line 26, by adding at the end of the Clause the words:—

"including the provision, maintenance, and improvement of houses and gardens and other works or buildings for, or for the convenience of, persons belonging to the working classes and other persons.

(3) Subject to the consent of the Local Government Board and to such conditions as the Board may prescribe, a local authority may for the purposes of Part III. of the Act of 1890 contract for the purchase or lease of houses suitable for the working classes, whether built at the date of the contract or intended to be built thereafter"—(Mr. Macpherson).

Another Amendment proposed, to add after the last inserted Amendment the words:—

"Provided always that where any land is proposed to be acquired compulsorily under the Act of 1890 or this Act the following provisions shall have effect:—

- (1) The land shall be selected with due regard to the general situation and convenience of the owners' property, so as to diminish the value thereof as little as possible;
- (2) Section sixty-three of The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, shall be incorporated with this Act;
- (3) The scheme shall avoid all interference (a) with the demesne and amenity of residence of the owner of the lands, or with any home farm or lands immediately adjoining and customarily occupied with such residence in like

manner as if the lands were the subject of a scheme under the Labourers (Ireland) Acts; and (b) with any land suitable for the erection thereon of villas, shops, or large houses, or for the development of the town in any other respect;

- (4) The Local Government Board may, upon the application of the local authority or of the owner of any land proposed to be taken, make an order that any land included in a scheme under Part III. of the Act of 1890 or the Act may be exchanged for other land of equal value"—(*Major Newman*).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Another Amendment proposed, to add after the last inserted Amendment the words:—

"(3) A local authority may with the consent of the Local Government Board make provision for the erection or provision of shops and shopping centres on any land acquired under this Act or the Acts incorporated with same.

(4) Notwithstanding section two hundred and two of The Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, or any provision in any local Act, any lands vested in a local authority may be appropriated for any of the purposes of the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Acts"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 8.

Amendment proposed, in page 5, line 41, to add at the end of the Clause the words:—

"(2) In assessing compensation for any lands acquired by a local authority for the purposes of this Act an arbitrator shall not allow any compensation for any land which shall have been waste and derelict for a period of five years immediately preceding the application of the local authority for the power to acquire said land"—(*Mr. Edward Kelly*).

Question, "That those words be there added,"—*put, and negatived*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 9.

Amendment proposed, in page 6, line 6, to insert after the word "society" the words "or owner of the site suitable for the purposes of this Act"—(*Major Newman*).—Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment made, in page 6, line 19, by inserting after the word "society" the words "and notwithstanding the provisions of section four of The Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1893, where a local authority assists such a society under this sub-section the local authority shall not be prevented from having or claiming an interest in the shares of the society exceeding two hundred pounds"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 10, postponed.

Clauses 11 and 12, *agreed to*.

Clause 13.

Amendment made, in page 8, line 24, by leaving out from the word "classes" to the end of line 39, and inserting the words:—

- " (a) for fixing, and from time to time varying, the number of persons who may occupy a house, or part of a house, which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, and for separation of the sexes therein;
- (b) for the registration and inspection of such houses;
- (c) for enforcing drainage and promoting cleanliness and ventilation of such houses;
- (d) for requiring provision adequate for the use of, and readily accessible to, each family of—
- (i) Closet accommodation;
 - (ii) Water supply and washing accommodation;
 - (iii) Accommodation for the storage, preparation, and cooking of food;
- and where necessary for securing separate accommodation as aforesaid for every part of such house which is occupied as a separate dwelling;
- (e) for the keeping in repair and adequate lighting of any common staircase in such house;
- (f) for securing stability and the prevention of and safety from fire;
- (g) for the cleansing and redecoration of the premises at stated times, and for the paving of the courts and courtyards;
- (h) for the provision of handrails where necessary for all staircases of such houses;
- (i) for securing the adequate lighting of every room in such houses;

and any such bye-laws, in addition to any other penalty, may prohibit the letting for occupation by members of more than one family of any such house unless the same are complied with, subject in the case of houses so let or occupied at the time when such bye-laws come into force to the allowance of a reasonable time for the execution of any works necessary to comply therewith.

(2) Such bye-laws may impose the duty of executing any work required to comply therewith upon the owner within the meaning of The Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, of any such house, or upon any other person having an interest in the premises, and may prescribe the circumstances and conditions in and subject to which any such duty is to be discharged.

(3) For the purpose of discharging any duty so imposed the owner or other person may at all reasonable times enter upon any part of the premises, and section fifty-one of the Act of 1890 shall apply as if for the reference to the provisions of Part II. of that Act there were substituted a reference to the provisions of such bye-laws, and as if the person on whom such duty is imposed were the owner, and any inmate of the premises were the occupier of a dwelling-house.

(4) Where an owner or other person has failed to execute any work which he has been required to execute under the bye-laws the local authority by whom such bye-laws are enforced may, after giving to him not less than twenty-one days' notice in writing, themselves execute the works and recover the costs and expenses incurred by them in so doing from the owner or other person as a civil debt in manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts, or, if they think fit, the local authority may, by order, declare any such expenses to be payable by annual instalments within a period not exceeding that of the interest of the owner or other person in the premises, nor in any case five years, with interest at a rate not exceeding five per cent. per annum, until the whole amount is paid, and any such instalment or interest or any part thereof may be recovered from the owner or other person as a civil debt in manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts"—(Mr. Macpherson),—instead thereof.

Other Amendments made.

Another Amendment made, in page 9, line 38, by adding at the end of the Clause the words :—

"(6) Where a local authority have themselves acquired a leasehold interest in any house under the powers conferred upon them by this Act, the Local Government Board, on the application of the local authority, may make a similar order with regard to the relaxation of the provisions of the lease and to charging an annuity on the premises as might have been made by the local authority on the application of a person desiring to convert a house as aforesaid, and in that case the decision of the Local Government Board as to the amount and duration of any such annuity shall be final"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 14, *agreed to*.

Clause 15.

Amendment made, in page 10, line 24, by inserting after the word "1890" the words :—

"The expression 'sell' includes the power to sell in consideration of an annual rent-charge or fee farm rent, and the expression 'sale' has a corresponding meaning"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 16.

Amendments made, in page 11, line 12, by leaving out the word "five," and inserting the word "eight"; in page 11, line 15, by leaving out the word "eighty-five," and inserting the word "ninety"; and in page 11, line 18, by adding at the end of the Clause the words "in subsection (2) of the said section one fifty years shall be substituted for thirty years"—(*Mr. Burn*).

Amendment proposed, to add after the last inserted Amendment the words :—

"(2) Where a local authority are satisfied, in accordance with section two of the said Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1890, as to the value of and title to the ownership of a house in respect of which they have received an application for an advance then, unless and except so far as the Local Government Board may in any particular case otherwise direct, the title to the premises in respect of which the advance is made shall forthwith, upon the application of the local authority, be registered under The Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act, 1891, and the advance may be made without any further investigation of such value or title or any sanction of the Local Government Board"—(*Mr. Burn*).

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 17 and 18, *agreed to*.

New Clauses—

- (1) Provisions as to assessment of compensation ;
- (2) Powers of dealing with land acquired ;
- (3) Occupation of house erected by local authority not to disqualify for election to local authority ;
- (4) Loans to private persons ;

- (5) Loans by local authorities for the improvement of housing accommodation ;
- (6) Consent of local authority to erection and use of buildings ;
- (7) Power to authorise conversion of a house into several tenements ;
- (8) Repair of houses ;
- (9) Power to authorise superior landlord to enter and execute works ;
- (10) Extension of powers under Settled Land Act, 1882 ;
- (11) Provisions of Housing Acts not to be affected by the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (War Restriction) Act, 1915. 5 & 6 Geo. V. c. 97 ;
- (12) Recovery of possession of premises let by a local authority—(*Mr. Macpherson*),

—brought up, and read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another New Clause (" Restrictions on the acquisition of land ") brought up, and read the first time as follows :—

" No land which is or forms part of a demesne or home farm shall be included in any petition for an order authorising the compulsory acquisition of land for the purpose of Part III. of the Act of 1890 "—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Motion made, and Question proposed, " That the Clause be read a second time."

Motion and Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Other New Clauses—

- (1) Advertisements and notices ;
- (2) Procedure and minor amendments of Housing Acts ;
- (3) Rules of the Local Government Board—(*Mr. Macpherson*),

—brought up, and read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 11.30 o'clock.

Wednesday, 9th July, 1919.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR in the Chair.

Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland
Major Barker
Sir Edward Beauchamp
Mr. Burns
Lieut.-Colonel Spender Clay
Mr. Devlin
Captain Dixon
Sir Maurice Dockrell
Mr. Donnelly
Lieut.-Colonel Walter Guinness
Mr. Harbison
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Lieut.-Colonel Willoughby

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.

Resolution of the House of 8th July read as follows :—

"Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) [Expenses] :

'That, for the purposes of any Act of the present Session to amend the enactments relating to the Housing of the Working Classes and the Acquisition of Small Dwellings in Ireland, it is expedient to authorise the payment, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, of expenses incurred by any Government Department—

- (a) when acting in the place of local authorities in preparing and carrying out schemes under such Act ;
- (b) in recouping losses incurred by local authorities ; and
- (c) in contributing to costs incurred by public utility societies and housing trusts and other persons.' "

Postponed Clause 3, *agreed to*.

Postponed Clause 5.

Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 1, to leave out the words "it appears to the Local Government Board that," and insert the words "in any year"—(*Mr. McGuffa*),—instead thereof.—Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendments made, in page 4, line 3, by leaving out the word "made," and inserting the word "approved," instead thereof ; in page 4, line 6, by inserting after the word "1890" the words "including the acquisition, clearance and development of land comprised in the last-mentioned scheme, and whether the rehousing will be effected on the area comprised in that scheme or elsewhere" ; in page 4, line 7, by leaving out the word "may," and inserting the word "shall," instead thereof ; and in page 4, line 8, by inserting after the word "period" the words "after the passing of this Act"—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Another Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 14, to leave out sub-section (2), and insert the words :—

"(5) The Public Works Loan Commissioners shall advance to any local authority applying for the same the amount required by such local authority for the carrying out of any such scheme as aforesaid, and such advance shall be made upon the terms as to payment of interest and repayment upon which advances are for the time being made to local authorities by the said Commissioners"—(*Mr. Moles*),

—instead thereof.—Question proposed, "That sub-section (2) stand part of the Clause."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Postponed Clause 10.

Amendments made, in page 6, line 31, after the word "period," by inserting the words "after the passing of this Act"; and in page 6, line 38, at the end of the Clause, by adding the words:—

"(2) Such regulations shall provide that the amount of any annual payment to be made under this section shall be equivalent to thirty per cent. of the annual loan charges which would have been payable in accordance with the regulations on the total capital expenditure incurred by the public utility society or housing trust for the purposes of the scheme if the amount of that expenditure had been borrowed from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland:

Provided that the regulations shall include provision for the reduction of the amount of the annual payment in the event of the Local Government Board being satisfied that the capital expenditure incurred by the public utility society or housing trust has been excessive.

Every regulation so made shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as may be after it is made, and if an Address is presented by either House within twenty-one days from the date on which that House has sat next after any such regulation is laid before it praying that the regulation may be annulled, His Majesty in Council may annul the regulation, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder."—(Mr. Morpherson).

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Another New Clause ("As to schemes by employers of persons of the working classes") brought up, and read the first time as follows:—

"(1) Where any company, firm, or person employing persons of the working classes shall have carried out, within such period as may be specified by the Local Government Board, a scheme approved by the Board for the provision of houses for such employees, the provisions of section five or of section ten (according as such company, firm, or person may elect) of this Act shall apply to such company, firm, or person as if they or he were a local authority carrying out a scheme made under section one of this Act or were a public utility society or a housing trust carrying out such a scheme as is referred to in the said section ten as the case may be: Provided that as respects schemes to which the said section ten applies, it shall be a condition of the approval of the scheme that the amount of the rents to be paid for houses provided under the scheme shall not be greater than shall suffice to produce a net revenue available for interest or dividend at the rate of six per centum per annum on so much of the capital expended in connection with the scheme as was provided by such company, firm, or person.

(2) As respects any scheme to which the provisions of section ten of this Act are applied under this section the Public Works Loan Commissioners may on the recommendation of the Local Government Board advance to any such company, firm, or person as is referred to in this section for the purposes of any such scheme as aforesaid so much of the capital required in connection with that scheme as in the opinion of the Board such company, firm, or person could not reasonably be expected to provide, and the provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of sub-section (2) of section eleven of this Act shall apply to and with respect to advances under this sub-section"—(Mr. McGuffin).

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

Motion and Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another New Clause ("Contributions to proprietors under Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899") brought up, and read the first time as follows:—

"(1) Where the ownership of a house provided under any such scheme as is referred to in this Act has been acquired by means of an advance under The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, the Local Government Board shall on

the application of the local authority making the advance, or of any person being the proprietor of that house, pay to such local authority yearly out of moneys to be provided by Parliament a sum representing such part of the annual charges for which the proprietor is for the time being liable under the said Act for interest on and repayment of the sum advanced by the local authority for the acquisition of such ownership as may be determined to be payable under regulations made by the Board with the approval of the Treasury subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by those regulations. The amount payable by the proprietor in any year to the local authority in respect of such annual charges as aforesaid shall be reduced by the amount payable by the Local Government Board in that year to the local authority under the provisions of this section.

(2) The regulations to be made under the provisions of this section shall provide that the amount of any such payment by the Board as aforesaid, in respect of any year, shall not be less than thirty per centum of the amount of such annual charges as aforesaid in respect of that year.

(3) Where the proprietor of a house in respect of which (a) any payment shall have been made by the Local Government Board to the local authority under the provisions of this section, and (b) the amount advanced by the local authority shall not have been wholly repaid to them, desires to transfer his interest in the house, he shall not transfer the said interest unless or until he shall have offered to transfer the same to the said local authority, and such offer shall have been refused.

(4) Upon any such offer the local authority to whom the same is made shall be entitled to purchase, and the proprietor shall, if so required by the said local authority, transfer to them the ownership of the said house at a price equivalent to the amount which would have been payable by such local authority under section five of the said Act if they had taken possession of the said house under section three of the same Act, after deducting from that amount the aggregate amount paid by the Local Government Board under the provisions of this section in respect of the said house. A local authority having purchased the ownership of a house under the provisions of this sub-section shall have with respect to that house the like rights as if they had taken possession thereof under the provisions of The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899.

(5) Words and expressions to which meanings are assigned by The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, shall, when used in this section, have the same respective meanings.—(*Captain Dixon*).

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

Motion and Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Schedule, amended and *agreed to*.

New Schedule brought up, and read the first time as follows:—

"Rules for Determining the Amount of Reduction of Compensation.

(a) The value of the whole of the land included in the scheme shall first be ascertained on the basis of its value as a cleared site available for development in accordance with the requirements of the building bye-laws in force in the district.

(b) The value of the whole of the said land shall next be ascertained on the basis of its value as a cleared site, subject to the requirements of the scheme as to the provision to be made for the rehousing of persons of the working classes, or the laying out of open spaces on the land or any part thereof.

(c) The difference between the amounts ascertained under paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) shall then be computed.

(d) The amount by which the compensation payable for the respective interests in the land to which section six of this Act applies, as ascertained in accordance with the principle laid down in that section is to be reduced, shall be a fraction

thereof equal to the amount arrived at under paragraph (c) when divided by the amount arrived at under paragraph (a)”—(*Mr. Macpherson*).

Schedule read a second time, and added to the Bill.

Another New Schedule (“Amendments as to Procedure under Parts I. and II. of the Act of 1890 and minor Amendments to that Act”)—(*Mr. Macpherson*),—brought up, and read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Ordered: To Report the Bill, as amended, to the House.